

## **Judicial Education Committee**

Friday, May 19, 2006, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., Suite 1068, National City Center

1. **Committee Members Present.** Earl Penrod (chair), Ted Boehm, Jane Spencer Craney, Bob Freese, Barbara Harcourt, Jane Magnus Stinson, John Rader, and Ted Todd.
2. **Staff Present.** Cathy Springer, Vicki Davis and Anne Jordan.
3. **Minutes.** The minutes from the March meeting were approved as submitted.
4. **Review Spring Judicial College.** Staff distributed copies of the evaluation tally from the Spring Judicial College, April 19-21. Overall, the evaluations were very positive. The committee briefly discussed the new registration format and generally agreed it was successful.
5. **Discussion on Plans for the Annual Meeting.** The committee reviewed a grid showing proposed sessions for the Annual Meeting in September.
  - a. Staff reported that Notre Dame is interested in participating in the program through presentations by law professors, sponsoring a reception and campus tours. Through the efforts of Judge Dreyer, the Center received a list of recommended professors. Staff reported that Professor Garnett is not available to do the constitutional law session, but Professor Smithburn has agreed to do a session on judicial discretion. The committee also discussed the idea of doing a session on end-of-life issues. While an intriguing and timely subject, it was generally agreed the topic might be better suited for an April Spring Judicial College course, and incorporating a panel discussion so as to insure all viewpoints are presented.
  - b. Staff reported plans to involve “local” talent and area judicial officers as faculty. Sandy Brook has agreed to teach an evidence session and Charlie Asher will be doing a presentation on cooperative family law.
  - c. Staff briefly reviewed plans for the plenary sessions each day noting that: the opening session is planned by Chief Justice Shepard and Jane Seigel; the Thursday business of judging will include reports by JTAC, Court Management on Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP), and various agency reports from Department of Correction and Criminal Justice Institute; and the Friday plenary will include Isaiah Zimmerman as the keynote speaker.
  - d. The committee offered a number of suggestions. Judge Magnus-Stinson suggested including a session on the ethics of dealing with self-represented litigants and promoting pro bono efforts. A suggestion was made to include an ethical component in the session on confidentiality of court records to increase attendance. Several members suggested including a session on new rules/new legislation.
6. **Report on the Winter Conference, December 8.** Staff announced they are working with Senior Judge Ruth Reichard on faculty recommendations and session topics for the Winter conference on domestic violence issues. The committee suggested including presentations on: the prevalence of domestic violence, understanding the cycle of violence, what works for batterers, and judicial actions that can unknowingly make the situation worse.

**7. Report on Additional Conferences Scheduled for 2006.**

- a. Juvenile Court Judges Annual Meeting, June 22-23. Anne Jordan reported that the annual meeting is being held in Bloomington at the Convention Center. The focus is on mental health and children.
- b. Indiana Traffic Court Technology Conference, October 12-13. Vicki Davis reported that this conference is being offered in lieu of the annual city and town court judges program. Attendance will be limited to 135 participants including all city/town court judges and 60 trial level judicial officers. This is a national program developed by the ABA's Judicial Division National Conference of Specialized Court Judges. The program will bring expert faculty from across the country to Indiana on such topics as speed measurement technology, automated speed/red light enforcement, automated traffic ticket administration, and toxicology of alcohol among others. Vicki also reported that Judge Witte and Judge Penrod will be serving as faculty.
- c. Pre-Bench Orientation, December 6-7. Vicki Davis reported that three judges lost their primary race. We will have 19 definite new judges as a result of retirements, new courts and the primary. Also, ten incumbent judges have general election contests in November. The pre-bench program will be much the same as in 2004 with some minor revisions.
- d. Who is our Audience Anyway? The committee discussed the recurring issue of who should be receiving education services from the Judicial Center besides members of the Judicial Conference. Staff reported that the Center currently provides education to approximately 75 city/town court judges (infractions, ordinances, misdemeanors and limited civil jurisdiction) but does not provide any education services to the ten Marion county small claims judges (small "civil" claims) or part-time commissioners and referees (with a few exceptions.) The committee decided the Center should conduct a survey to find the judicial officers in the courts that we are not aware of and that a written policy should be developed outlining who is eligible to attend Center education programs.

**8. Faculty Development and Recognition.** Staff announced plans to invite Pat Murrell to Indiana to present a faculty development program (understanding the adult learner) at the 2007 Spring Judicial College. The committee discussed faculty recognition and faculty gifts. It was generally agreed that faculty would appreciate peer recognition over the receipt of a gift. The committee noted, however, that the faculty mugs as well as the red apples were very nice.

**9. Master's Writing Proposal.** Ted Todd announced the committee had received its first Master's writing project – a law review article written by Earl Penrod recommending adoption of continuing judicial education in lieu of continuing legal education for judges. The article was approved for completion of the writing requirement of the Master's Certificate program.

**10. Next meeting date.** The next committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 21, 1:00-3:30 p.m. in Suite 1373.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Davis, Assistant Education Director